

Buddhism in American Cinema



Many American commercial films bear Buddhist elements. Some are explicitly about Buddhism, such as *Little Buddha* (1993), *Seven Years in Tibet* (1997), *Kundun* (1997), and *Zen Noir* (2004). Some are regarded as being influenced by Buddhist ideas, even if in a diluted or distorted way, such as *Groundhog Day* (1993), *The Big Lebowski* (1998), *Fight Club* (1999), *The Matrix* (1999), *American Beauty* (1999), *I Heart Huckabees* (2004), and the first two trilogies of *Star Wars*. Join us in discussing Buddhist themes in American commercial films, especially those without explicit Buddhist images, with Dr. Hsiao-Lan Hu, associate professor of Religious Studies of the University of Detroit Mercy.

(event free for LBA regular and premium members;
suggested donation of \$20 for non-members)

Saturday,
March 23, 2019
10:00 a.m. –
3:30 p.m.

Amitabha Village
Retreat Center
(14796 Beardslee
Road, Perry, MI)

lunch break
12:00-1:30
(please bring
your own lunch)

Viewing of *I Heart Huckabees* (2004) at
LotusVoice (4994 Park Lake Road, East Lansing)
at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22
(popcorn will be served)